

PLAIN TALKS

July
1984

River Bend preserve

Employee art show

Contraband Days



MAIL BOX

THE COVER

Native only to the American continent, the wild turkey population is dwindling. But agents of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries are working with GSU to preserve the remaining birds. The wild turkeys that live at the River Bend site exist as proof of GSU's commitment to preserve and maintain the wildlife in the area. Read more about this work in a story by Andy Dreher beginning on page 12. The cover photo was provided by Mark Saltz of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Supervisor
Maintenance Department
Zachary, La.

Dear Sir,

Thank you so much for your prompt attention to our electrical problem on Little Farmes Drive on Tuesday, May 1. Your men are to be commended for working through the night to restore the electricity in my area. Thank you for a job well done.

Sincerely,
Donald A. Fonte, M.D.

Gulf States Utilities
Baton Rouge, La.

Gentlemen,

Thank you for so graciously donating your share of the Relief Map Trust to the West Baton Rouge Historical Association. The board of directors join me in expressing appreciation for your support of the Museum and its projects.

Sincerely,
Mary Jane Kahao
President

Stanley LeBouef
Orange, Texas

Dear Mr. LeBouef,

The City of Orange Parks and Recreation Department and I would like to express our sincerest gratitude to you for helping with our "Adventure for Little People" program. We had over 500 children attend this event, ranging from two to six years of age. The talks and demonstrations given by your employees were the highlight of this event. Please extend our thanks to Skip Gerstner and Robert Parsons for their help.

Sincerely,
Tracy Schuleman
Center Supervisor

Editor's note: The men Ms. Schuleman refers to are Stanley LeBouef, T&D supervisor; Robert Parsons, utility foreman; and Skip Gerstner, a helper; all of the Orange T&D department.

Clara Wellmann
Conroe, Texas

Dear Ms. Wellmann,

I want to take this opportunity to pay one of your employees a compliment. She is Georgia Harris.

I was in the Conroe plant on two different occasions to get letters of credit and both times it was Ms. Harris who helped me. I was impressed by her attitude towards her job and her friendly personality. She is certainly an excellent employee.

Although we have relocated and now use another utility company, I thank Gulf States for 17 months of excellent service. Sincerely,
Mrs. Charles F. Black

Editor's note: Georgia Harris is a clerk in the Conroe office. Clara Wellmann is a supervisor in customer accounting.

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Employees who change residences or offices should fill out company mailing-address-change forms (GSU0012-00-81) and return them to the mailroom in the Edison Plaza. GSU publications, departmental mailings and other company information are not automatically forwarded; addresses must be corrected when employees move.

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The pastel-colored garden homes of Stumberg Ridge use electric heat pumps to provide their heating and cooling needs.

Stumberg Ridge: more than

Story and photos by T.J. Reyes

If home is where the heart is, one look at the Victorian cottages of Stumberg Ridge may convince you to move in. These lovely two- and three-story garden homes in southeast Baton Rouge are more than just pretty.

All 50 homes meet the qualifications of Gulf States' 1984 National Energy Watch (N.E.W.) 100 Plus Bonus Program. To qualify, the construction must meet certain energy-efficient standards and utilize electric heat pumps for all of the heating and cooling needs. This type of housing will improve GSU's system efficiency by reducing summer energy demand, lower fuel costs by lessening the need for more expensive peaking fuels and increase off-peak energy use.

The houses were built with what was called an "exceptional

show of cooperation and energy consciousness" among the six builders responsible for the project — South East Builders, Inc.; Brett Frazier; Gil Broussard, Contractor, Inc.; Thoroughbred Builders; Stumberg Development Corp.; and Paul Lemoine for Baton Rouge Financial Services, Inc.

"Not only did the builders use the same designer, but they all agreed to install the latest in energy-saving features," says Dennis Smith, consumer information coordinator in Baton Rouge. "This brings a unity to the project both inside and out. The energy efficiency will be evident in the utility bills."

Smith has worked with the builders since the project began to ensure compliance with N.E.W. standards. He notes that by installing electric heat pumps,

the builders qualified for an incentive, or rebate, from GSU of \$300 per house. To qualify for the program, builders are also required to meet other standards regarding insulation and air infiltration.

The builders decided this unique subdivision deserved special promotion so they are using the incentive money for television commercials about Stumberg Ridge.

Realtor Pam Earnest of Q&M Realtors points out that the garden home concept is also new to Baton Rouge. She describes a garden home as a single unit, stand-alone dwelling with limited lawn area which reduces lawn maintenance. Usually one side of the home has no windows and is built close to the property line.

Other energy-saving features in the \$82,000 to \$92,000 homes



Builder Steve Guidry, a member of GSU's Consumer Advisory Board in Baton Rouge, and Dennis Smith, coordinator of consumer information.

Special touches added by each builder, such as this awning, individualize each home.

pretty

are double-insulated windows, insulated exterior doors and higher R-value insulation than required by GSU for N.E.W. qualification. Also, a waste heat recovery system provides hot water by using heat produced during air conditioning that would normally be thrown away. This feature also raises the efficiency of the air conditioning.

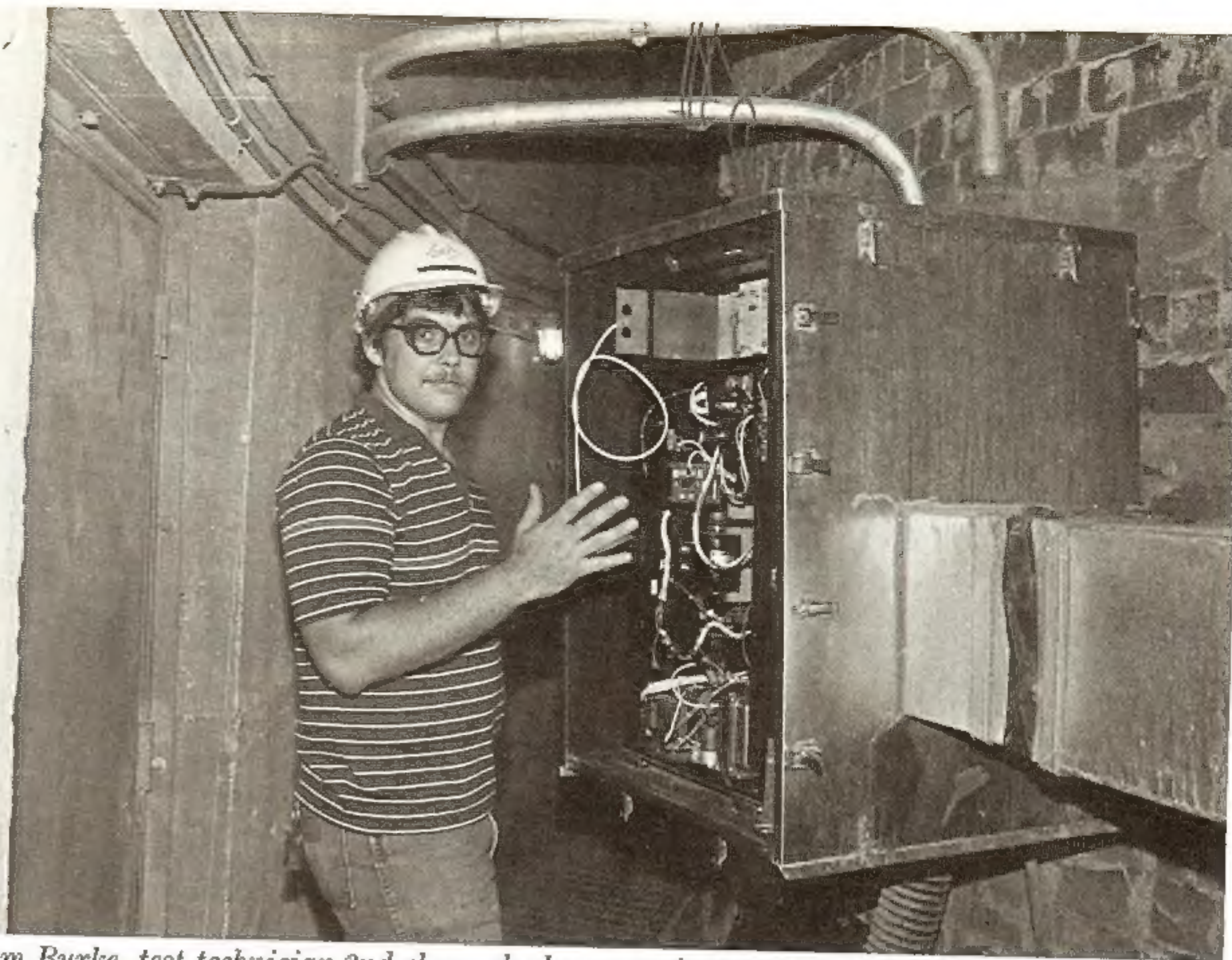
All of the energy-saving features notwithstanding, builder Steve Guidry thinks the prime attraction at this point will be the special touches added by each builder. In the future, Guidry, who is a member of GSU's Consumer Advisory Panel in Baton Rouge, believes the energy-saving features will make the houses even more attractive.





Van Conner oversees River Bend environmental activity.

Photo by Donna Fancher



Sam Burke, test technician-2nd class, checks an environmental station in the Nelson 6 stack.

Protecting the environment

by Susan Gilley

Armed with degrees in environmental science, biology, chemistry, meteorology, wildlife and fisheries, about a dozen Gulf States' employees are helping the company meet the ever-increasing challenge of protecting the environment.

"GSU believes in protecting the environment," says Dr. Gary Weigand, vice president-nuclear administration "and we've gone to great lengths to do so."

Weigand cites two examples of the company's environmental commitment. "Back in 1978, GSU deeded 40 acres of right-of-way to the Nature Conservancy, a national nature protective organization. The land is now a part of Sandyland Sanctuary, which is a unique ecosystem near Silsbee." Further, the company "has a considerable staff of environmental specialists," he points out.

One of those specialists, Chris Menzel, compares environmental compliance activity to the role played by GSU's occupational health and safety section. "It's our responsibility to know the

regulations, but protecting the environment is everybody's business." It usually means doing a job properly and using common sense, he adds.

At Gulf States, the specialists fall into four different areas: Menzel and Jim Mutch, both of whom are supervisors-environmental engineering, supervise six environmental analysts in the Environmental Engineering Group; Van Conner heads the Environmental Services Group of three professionals and two technicians at the River Bend site; and James Cook is lead environmental analyst for the Nuclear Licensing Group. There are also individuals in each power plant and division who are responsible for day-to-day environmental compliance.

Menzel reveals that the environmental analysts "spend a great deal of time reviewing proposed regulations" to determine the impact on GSU and to enable the company to participate in the comment period of the regulation process.

Mutch's group is responsible for compliance with air and solid and hazardous wastes legislation.

Menzel has responsibility for wastewater and PCB compliance. Both groups are responsible for acquisition of various permits.

While GSU must abide by environmental laws, Mutch believes the company goes a step further. "Our track record speaks for itself. You frequently read about other industries with environmental problems. We have a good image." A contributing factor may be GSU's voluntary, in-house environmental auditing system. Under the program, four GSU environmental specialists comprise a team that visits a particular facility twice a year for an intensive two- to three-day audit. Each member specializes in some aspect of the applicable regulatory requirements. Once the field work is completed, the team discusses its findings and makes recommendations to the facility management. Later, a written audit report is submitted.

While GSU has compiled an impressive environmental record, Menzel points out that accidents sometimes happen. Fortunately, the company has learned from mishaps. Menzel explains, "A couple of years ago, a transformer

explosion at Sabine Station spilled several hundred gallons of transformer oil containing PCBs."

According to Menzel, the experience "showed us how to respond to a large spill, how to clean it up, how to sample for clean-up verification." He continues. "We have since embarked on a PCB inventory program to determine the quantity and concentration of PCBs in power plant equipment. Now we're minimizing the danger of future spills by replacing equipment with new equipment containing non-PCB oil, retrofitting equipment with non-PCB oil or by using a chemical process that destroys PCBs in existing equipment."

All of the environmental specialists interviewed agree that public interest — and subsequent legislation — concerning protection of the environment has escalated over the past decades. That interest is probably intensified further for nuclear plants.

For instance, explains Weigand, "River Bend is the first plant that required an intensive Environmental Impact Statement before we started construction.

Cook, who prepared the Environmental Report for the company's operating license application, says the document covered the geological, hydrological, sociological, meteorological, thermal, radiological, biological and chemical effects of a nuclear plant in the St. Francisville area.

Conner, who joined GSU two years ago, spent the 10 previous years at the River Bend site as part of a Louisiana State University ecological monitoring research team. Besides monitoring for regulatory compliance, the River Bend Environmental Services Group has to ensure that a dozen or so licensing commitments are kept.

For instance, one such commitment involves monitoring for salt drift from the plant's cooling

towers. When the plant begins operation, the evaporation of the river water in the towers will leave the solids — or salts — which can then mingle with mist or fog and fall on nearby vegetation. While Conner says there is little chance any damage will occur beyond the boundaries of the plant, the company will periodically use infrared aerial photography to check that vegetation is not damaged.

Most of GSU's environmentalists concede that they entered the field at a time when environ-

mental issues were a hot media topic. As Cook, 32, explains, "It was really an issue with people my age."

Protecting the environment continues to be an issue, because people like Cook, Conner, Mutch and Menzel realize that a corporate commitment to minimize man's impact on nature is not just good for the company. Preservation of the environment has benefits for future generations as well. That makes them feel good, because they believe their work can contribute something.



Making sure that material containing PCBs is packed correctly are (standing, from left) Kent Girouard, utility foreman; Steve Moore, substation mechanic-4th class; (kneeling) Lee Terro, substation foreman, and Sheryl Brocato, environmental analyst.

Employee Art Show Truncale, Haynie take top honors

Text and photos by T. J. Reyes



The judges selected this pen-and-ink drawing by Mark Truncale as Best of Show. The judges were, from left, Bob O'Neill, Cheryl Talton and David Mayer.



First place winner in the photography/other category: Alan Spencer, Edison Plaza.



First place winner in the other handcrafts category: Isabel Ketterer, wife of Mike Ketterer, Edison Plaza.

Judges selected Mark Truncale's pen-and-ink drawing as Best of Show in the 3rd GSU Employee Art Show held June 5-7. Truncale, who works at Sabine Station, entered a detailed drawing of gnarled tree trunks along a river bank to win the judges' top award.

Ken Haynie, graphics coordinator in Public Affairs, won the People's Choice ribbon for his painted carving of two ducks. People's Choice is determined from votes cast by employees and guests who toured the exhibit.

Colleen Church, coordinator of the event, said that the judges for the show were professionals from outside GSU who volunteered their time and expertise. They were David Mayer, of David Mayer Photography; Bob O'Neill, associate professor of art at Lamar University; and Cheryl Talton, owner of Something Different, a crafts shop.

The judges chose from 221 entries for 1st-, 2nd- and 3rd-place ribbons and an honorable mention selection in 11 categories as well as the Best of Show award. First place winners were:

- Original oil/acrylic: Helen Vice, wife of John Vice, Port Arthur.
- Copy of painting: Dorothy Lloyd, Silsbee.
- Watercolor: Fred Gilbert, Baton Rouge.
- Photography/portrait: David Jimnez, Beaumont Service Center.
- Photography/other: Alan Spencer, Edison Plaza.
- Pen and ink: Phil Brannan, Edison Plaza.
- Handcrafts/stained glass: Mary Jordan, Edison Plaza.
- Handcrafts/textile: Lynn Donnelly, wife of Joseph Donnelly, Edison Plaza.
- Other handcrafts: Isabel Ketterer, wife of Mike Ketterer, Edison Plaza.
- Sculpture: Ken Haynie, Edison Plaza.
- Mixed media: Darlene Patterson, Liberty-Pearl.

Church said that in addition to all of the winners, congratulations were in order for each volunteer who helped organize the show. "The show would never have gone off without the aid of Thom Ardoin, Joe DeJean, Ronnie DeRutte, Wanda Douglas, Cheryl Ellis, Ken Haynie, Teresa Holdstead, Karla Jones, Ed Loggins and Paul Weilgus," she acknowledged. "They, as well as everyone who entered their work, made this the biggest and best show GSU has ever had."



Ken Haynie won the People's Choice award for this carving of two ducks.



First place winner in the handcrafts/stained glass category: Mary Jordan, Edison Plaza.



First place winner in the copy of a painting category: Dorothy Lloyd, Silsbee.



First place winner in the handcrafts/textile category: Lynn Donnelly, wife of Joseph Donnelly, Edison Plaza.



From left: Stafford Vincent, Melanie Caldwell, Bruce Cook, Martha Caldwell, Glen Foy, Dave Bushnell and Billy Chenevert.



Ted Meinscher and Rene DeBlanc.

Walkathon held in Lake Charles

Story by T.J. Reyes

Photos by Connie Herford

Employees in the Lake Charles Division collected \$6,607.86 in their May 12 walk for the March of Dimes. Their 10-mile route, beginning and ending at the Kilowatt Club in Westlake, took them past Nelson Coal and Nelson Gas & Oil power plants. Refreshments and a barbeque dinner were served following the walk.

The division winner was Robert Caswell of Lake Charles T&D, who collected \$395 in donations. Other employees who were awarded prizes for their efforts were Ed Jones of Nelson Coal, team leader-most walkers; and Jackie Ellender of Lake Charles T&D, team leader-most money collected.

Lake Charles Division held their walk two weeks later than the other divisions due to a schedule conflict, according to Connie Herford, *Plain Talks* correspondent. She estimates that about 150 employees from throughout the division, their friends and family members took part.



The Roy Widgeon family: Roy holding David Paul, Mary Ann, Lilly Mae and Thomas.



The cooks, from left, Charles Callahan, L. J. Menard and Glen Foy.

Division hosts safety fair

Story by T.J. Reyes

Western Division employees and their families enjoyed a day of fun-filled activities at their 1984 Safety Fair held May 5 at the White Oak Pavilion near Conroe.

Along with the usual carnival booths, bucket truck rides and athletic events, there were many activities aimed at pleasing the adults as well as the kids. Play money, distributed at registration and to winners of each special event, could be used to bid for items featured in an auction held later in the day. Those donating homebaked goods or arts and crafts items for the auction earned extra play money.

Other events during the day included a legs contest for men only and a photo matching contest where participants tried pairing current photos with a baby picture of various employees.

Lunch for the day was barbeque and all of the trimmings.



Photo by Nina Wiley

Billie Schaefer, employee relations associate in Conroe, explains the rules of the photo matching contest.



Photo by Roberta Plant

Winners in the legs contest are congratulated by Bobbie Burke, executive secretary, second from left. Winners are, from left: Rick Reina, prettiest legs; Juan Villarreal, most bow-legged; D. W. Rutherford, hairiest legs; Archie Cook, nuttiest legs; Paul Senkel, palest legs; Ron Wheeler, sexiest legs; and Larry Moore, double winner of most muscular legs and Mr. GSU.



Photo by Kaletta Thompson

John Conley, vice president-Western Division, takes his turn in the dunking booth.



Adam Wiley, 3-year-old son of Nina Wiley, departmental clerk in Conroe, liked the moon walk, one of the carnival rides.



Photo by Nina Wiley

Jerry McHam, superintendent-Woodlands District, and his daughter, Lauren, enjoy a snow cone.

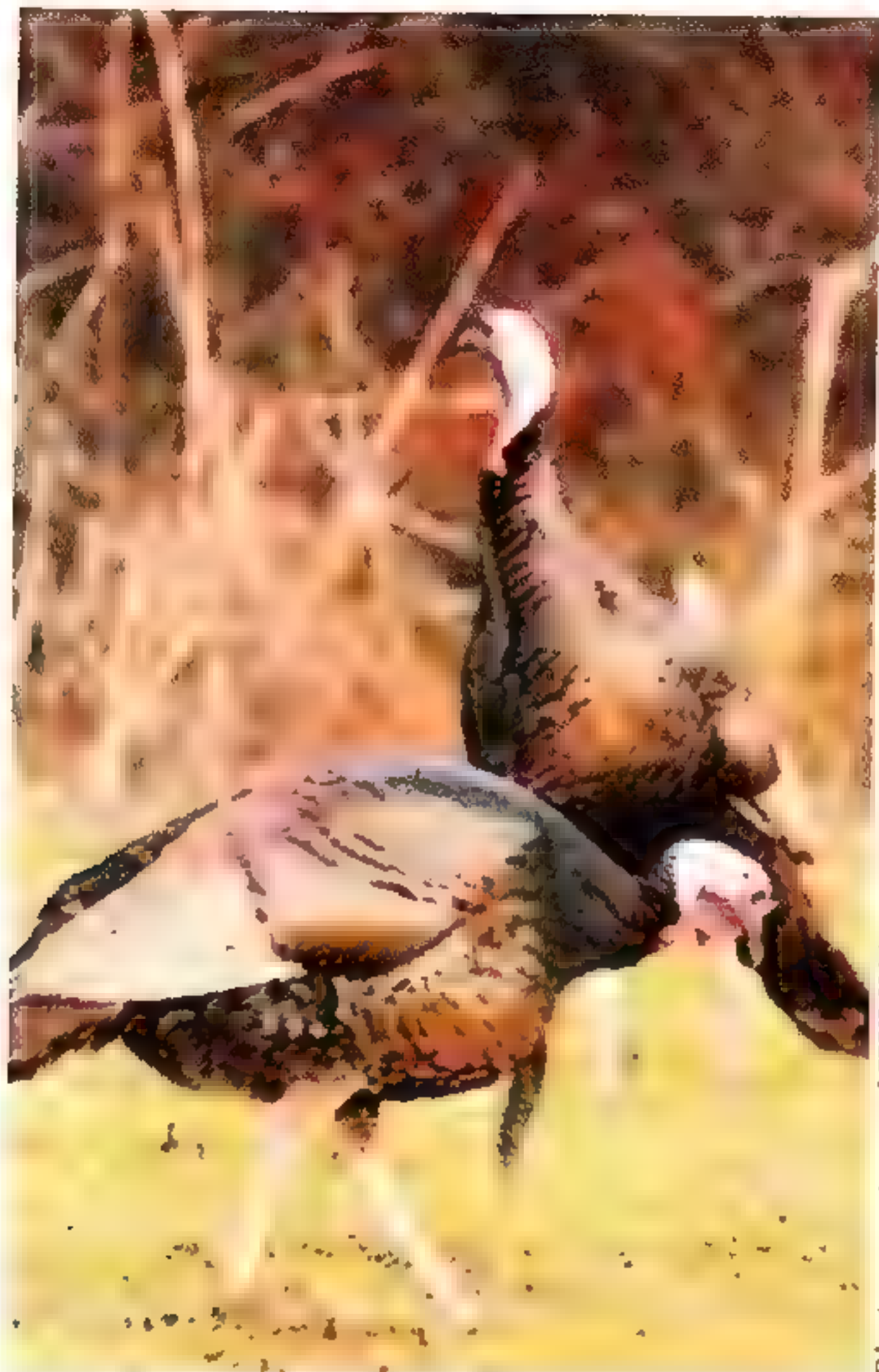


Photo courtesy of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wild turkeys, like these at River Bend, are native only to the American continent.

Agents from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries band the wild turkeys to study them and maintain their population.



An electrical charge sets off the rockets on the cannon net used to trap the wild turkeys.

Photo courtesy of Wildlife and Fisheries

Age and sex of each bird is determined as part of the study.

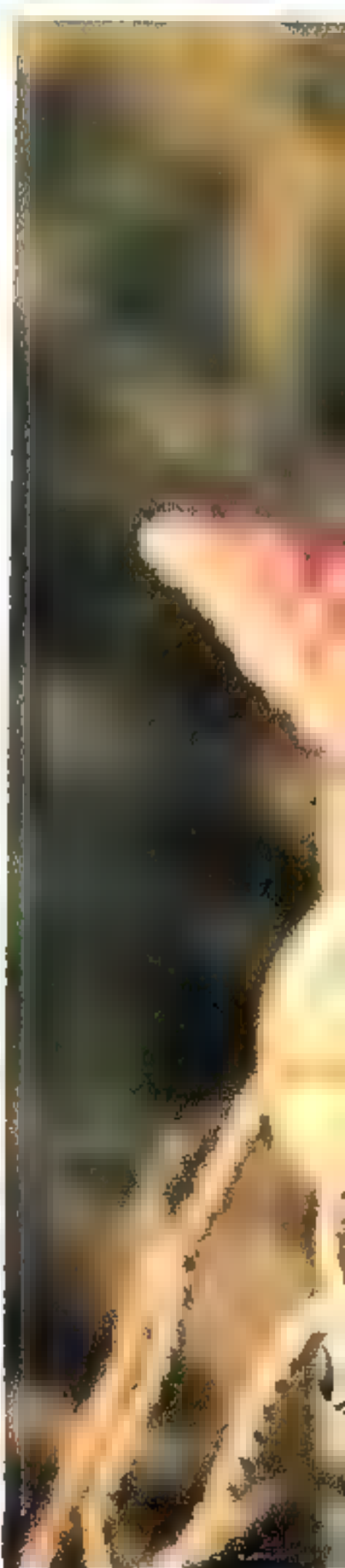




Photo by Dan Speeg



Photo by Dan Speeg

On the trail of wild turkeys

Story by Andy Dreher

It's 5:30 in the morning as the sun's first rays move across the thicket. In the shadows of daylight we see a 40-foot by 60-foot cannon net with four rockets spread on the ground. The net is set along a 1-foot by 10-foot bait line.

Approaching the net we see a feathered mass of brown, red and green and the unmistakable red wrinkled heads and necks of a flock of wild turkeys.

Will they outsmart us or will they move onto the net? We know they must stand exactly on the bait line before we can snare them. As we wait, they take those last crucial steps. In the instant they move onto the bait line, an electrical charge sets off the rockets, hurling the net over their squawking mass of feathers. Quickly, agents of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (Wildlife and Fisheries) move out of the blind to grab the entrapped birds. We have captured these birds to set them free.

Here on the site of the River Bend nuclear plant Wildlife and Fisheries and GSU are working together to preserve the wild turkey population. According to Dr. Van Conner, environmental supervisor at River Bend, the program has two purposes — "to control, study and maintain the wild turkey population on the site and to relocate some of the birds to other parts of Louisiana so the state's wild turkey population will improve and increase."

In 1982 food plots were planted at various site locations, with the first attempt to trap the birds taking place in the winter of 1983. That year 25 turkeys were captured. Says Conner, "After the age and sex of the birds was determined, they were banded so Wildlife and Fisheries could monitor the population and continue their studies." Nine of the 25 birds were released on site while the remaining 16 were taken to other locations.

Robert Helm, wildlife biologist for Wildlife and Fisheries, is pleased with the success of the program and says it shows that GSU is serious about its commitment to preserve and maintain the wildlife at River Bend. According to Helm, "The 16 turkeys released in 1983 now number 53 ... and 12 more turkeys have been captured already this year."

Fruge reigns as Jean LaFitte

by Connie Herford



Photo courtesy of the Lake Charles American Press

Sheldon P. Fruge as Jean LaFitte.

Reliving the days when pirate Jean LaFitte roamed the area's lakes and bayous, the people of Lake Charles celebrate Contraband Days every May. This year Sheldon P. Fruge was selected to reign over the 12-day celebration as Jean LaFitte. Fruge is general maintenance supervisor at Nelson Gas & Oil power plant.

A local group, the Buccaneers, was organized in 1965 to support Contraband Days and its colorful pageantry. Each year the men and their wives dress up as pirates and, led by Jean LaFitte, take over the city after dunking the mayor in the lake. They parade through the streets of Lake Charles on pirate ship floats, which are kept hidden in the secret pirate coves where they are built, until the festivities begin. Each float team tries to outdo the others in originality and design.

Fruge and his wife, Rita, have been members of the Buccaneers for seven years. They are active in Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic church, the Knights of Columbus and the International Maintenance Institute.

Among the activities Fruge and this year's Miss Contraband, Gretchen Aumiller, participated in were: the presentation of the royal court at the Miss Contraband beauty pageant, the awarding of the Jean LaFitte trophies to the top marching bands and the Fest-O-Foods, where area restaurants offer samples of their specialties.

Each year the crowds viewing the parade have grown in such proportions that Contraband Days is second in size only to Mardi Gras in the State of Louisiana. Other events held during the festival include arts and crafts exhibits, a Las Vegas night and a floating bathtub race.

Special Athlete competes in Fun Run

by Andy Dreher

How would you feel if you could call President Reagan your special friend? That's a privilege held by 13-year-old Greg Gross of Baton Rouge. Greg competed in last year's International Special Olympics, coming away with two gold medals in the 25- and 50-meter freestyle swimming events.

As a result, Greg was invited to the White House to meet the president. You can see the pride beaming from Greg's eyes when his mother shows pictures of him shaking hands with the president.

This year, Greg expanded his athletic abilities into running. He did very well in the one-mile Fun Run at the 3rd annual River Bend Spring Run. All the proceeds from that event are donated to the Louisiana Special Olympics.

After his return from the White House, Greg wrote President Reagan, inviting him to come to his house to eat red beans and rice. Mrs. Reagan was invited to accompany the president. To this date, Greg hasn't heard from his special friend in Washington, but with all the love and charm this young man has to offer, who knows? He and his special friend may one day meet again.



To Greg Gross with best wishes,

Ronald Reagan

SERVICE AWARDS

30 years



John B. Conn
Electric T&D
Port Allen

10 years



John M. Ball
Plant Production
Louisiana Station



Malcolm A. Gauthier
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



Otis Gilford
Electric T&D
Conroe



Curtis L. Hart
Gas Dept.
Baton Rouge



Barry Hills
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



William G. Hopper
Sys. Eng.
Real Estate
Beaumont



Gloria Nickson
Acctg. Services
Beaumont

NEWS BRIEFS



Photo by Sheila Soileau

From left: David Simmons, fuel handling supervisor; Gerald Ward, fuel handling foreman; Noland Mitchell, fuel handling operator; and Robert Spittler, fuel handling operator.

Employees rewarded for suggestions

Noland Mitchell and Robert Spittler, both fuel handling operators at Nelson Coal, recently each received 4,000 bonus safety points for ideas submitted to the Employee Suggestion Program, according to Sheila Soileau, *Plain Talks* correspondent.

Mitchell's suggestion concerned fire extinguishers in the plant's motor control centers. Previously the extinguishers were located inside the control centers which could hamper access to them

should a fire occur inside. He suggested placing wheel unit fire extinguishers outside the control centers.

Spittler's winning idea was to place Scott air packs in various locations in each transfer station at the plant. This could save valuable rescue time if someone should become trapped inside the station. Formerly the closest air packs were located in a tractor shed.

The presentations were made to the two men by Gerald Ward and David Simmons.



Photo by Pris Gallagher

Marvin Garrene

"Bizzy Box" earns Garrene extra money

Marvin Garrene's idea for testing electrical circuits on trailers won him the thanks of the GSU Employee Suggestion Committee and a check for \$175.

Garrene, mechanic-1st class, Baton Rouge, developed what he calls a "bizzy box," a small device to reduce the time required to test stop, back-up and running lights on trailers. He said the box would increase efficiency and improve both operations and productivity.



Photo by Jill Street

Harriet Babin

Babin active in community

Harriet Babin, supervisor of consumer information services for the Baton Rouge Division, was recently tapped for special offices by two organizations: Camp Fire, Inc. and 4-H, reports Jill Street, *Plain Talks* correspondent.

At the annual meeting of the Big River Council of Camp Fire, Babin was elected to serve on the board of directors for 1984. This council oversees the activities for Camp Fire in 14 parishes.

Ms. Babin was also elected vice-chairman of the board of trustees for the 4-H Development Fund in the state of Louisiana. She has served on the board of trustees since 1980. The funds are used to provide 4-H leader training in state and regional conferences and to help support state awards programs and scholarships and are administered through the LSU Foundation.

Sponsored by the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service, 4-H is an educational program which reaches over 75,000 youths and 25,000 adults.

Morrison leads campaign sales

Debra Morrison of Orange led in sales in the recent "sell-a-light" campaign, selling 53 lights for the top spot. The campaign, which lasted from March 1-April 30, ended with a total of 1,027 security lights and floodlights sold by GSU employees, according to DeWitt Hollingsworth, administrator-commercial development.

Other employees whose efforts resulted in sales of 25 or more lights were: Mike Allen, Baton Rouge, with 37 lights; Marlene Brandt, Baton Rouge, who sold 34; and Wilbert Young, Port Arthur, with 25 lights. Any employee who sold a light qualified for 500 points per sale. The points are redeemable for merchandise at Wilson stores.

Hollingsworth said the "sell-a-light" campaign produced \$144,883 in estimated annual revenue, in addition to about \$68,000 in one-time installation charges. He also noted that the campaign supports GSU's marketing efforts to build its off-peak load. This, in turn, will help increase operating efficiency and reduce generating costs.

"All employees who participated are to be congratulated," Hollingsworth commented. "It was through their efforts that the campaign was a success."

Those customers who purchased a light will benefit from more than just the security and safety it can provide. The lights sold in the campaign were a high-pressure sodium type which uses less wattage, fewer kilowatthours and has a longer life than an incandescent light.



Thomas A. Burbank

Officer dies in Beaumont

Thomas H. Burbank, senior vice president-executive projects, died May 12 in St. Elizabeth Hospital, Beaumont.

Burbank, who was 62, was a nationally recognized expert on electric utility rates and regulation. Before joining GSU in September 1978, he was senior vice president of finance at the Edison Electric Institute.

Burbank also served as GSU senior vice president-accounting services and rates, senior vice president-rates and economics, and treasurer. A native of Bridgeport, Connecticut, he received his bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from Yale University in 1945.

A veteran of both World War II and the Korean War, he was a research lieutenant with the U.S. Navy. He began his professional career as an engineer with Connecticut Light and Power and later was a rate consultant for Ebasco Services in Cuba and Central America.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret Burbank of Beaumont; one son, Thomas Burbank of Beaumont; and three daughters, Margaret Donilon of Lenexa, Kansas, Ellen McKenna of Madison, Connecticut and Christine Burbank of Beaumont.



Photo by Ella Brown

From left, Leo Blaize, president of the West Baton Rouge Police Jury; Monsignor Leo Guillot; William LeBlanc, mayor of Port Allen; and Walt Wright, GSU's superintendent of the Port Allen district.

Building dedicated in Port Allen

Nearly 200 guests and officials from surrounding towns were on hand for the dedication of the new Port Allen service center held April 25, reports Ella Brown, *Plain Talks* correspondent.

Monsignor Leo Guillot, who blessed the building and its employees; William LeBlanc, mayor of Port Allen; and Leo Blaize, president of the West Baton Rouge Police Jury, were among the special guests.

The office, which opened for business earlier this year, is located at 901 Rosedale in Port Allen.



Brandon McClain wins pageant

Brandon McClain, 3-year-old son of Mark and Connie McClain, was selected overall winner in the USA Shamrock Beauty Pageant held St. Patrick's Day in Beaumont. Brandon won in his age division as well as the photogenic award.

Brandon's father is a utility worker 1 at Sabine Station. The couple also has one daughter, Telisha.



From left, Randy Burk, test technician-2nd class; Charlie Smith, test technician-1st class; and John Spivey, test technician-1st class, try on their safety award jackets.

Jackets mark safety achievement

The back of the jackets reads, "We believe in safety," and the employees at Willow Glen wear them with pride. The group won

the power plant operations portion of the 1983 President's Safety Award and completed the year without a single disabling accident. Besides receiving the jackets, the group and their spouses were honored with a banquet for their safety achievement. *Plain Talks* correspondent Greg Russell took this photograph.



From left: Teresa, Tammy and Tasha (in van) Thornton.

Children win store drawing

Linda Thornton's children now have their own wheels. The three young girls, Teresa, Tammy and Tasha, won a motorized mini-van in a Conroe department store drawing. Their mother is a local office clerk in Huntsville.

Tennis tourney winners announced

The 7th annual Live Wires Tennis Tournament was held March 31-April 1 at the West End YMCA in Beaumont. The winners included:

- Men's Open Singles
John Knippa defeated Albert Duffel (6-4, 4-6, 6-2).
- Men's Novice Singles
Wali Khan defeated Eric Berzsenyi (6-0, 6-0).
- Men's Doubles
John Knippa/Charlie Boynton defeated Gary Weigand/Mike Yennie (3-6, 6-0, 6-3).
- Women's Open Singles
Salma Khan defeated Erin O'Neill.



Osborne scores in music festival

Violinist Reggie Osborne won three first place soloist medals and the overall soloist trophy for the 6th Grade Division at the Thomas Jefferson Music Festival. All area schools were invited to participate in the Port Arthur competition.

Reggie, who is the son of Edward Osborne, has only played the violin since September 1983. His father is a collector in the Vidor office.



First-time dad welcomes baby

Rebecca Lynn Landry was born March 1 to Roy and Joan Landry in Baton Rouge at Women's Hospital. She weighed 6 pounds, 8½ ounces and measured 20 inches.

Rebecca's dad is a senior consumer services representative in Baton Rouge Division. Co-workers presented the new dad with a diaper pail of presents for the new arrival.

INSIDE GSU



Burruss named Eagle Scout

Stuart N. Burruss, son of Lewis and Cathy Burruss of Lumberton, has attained the rank of Eagle, the Boy Scouts' highest award. The presentation was made by Troop 1852 during a special Court of Honor in Missouri City, Texas held April 17.

Stuart, 18, is a graduating senior at Lumberton High School. His father is a senior civil and structural engineer in the River Bend Nuclear Group, Beaumont.



From left: Mike Durham, manager-occupational health and safety; Fahrenthold; and Ray Thompson, safety coordinator.

Safety group honors retiree

The Safety Department recently honored Freddie Fahrenthold with a plaque featuring a miniature lineman's rubber glove and an inscription acknowledging his devoted work in the system

testing laboratory in Beaumont.

Fahrenthold, prior to his retirement on Feb. 1, 1984, was responsible for di-electronically testing linemen's gloves, sleeves and other items used for protection against electric shock and burn injuries.

Fahrenthold was also presented a saltwater rod and reel, and treated to a steak dinner by the Safety group.



From left: Lacey, Keley Elizabeth and Haley Gutierrez.

Family adds third daughter

Keley Elizabeth Gutierrez was born on Dec. 22, 1983, just in time to join her sisters, Lacey and Haley, for Christmas. She weighed 4 pounds, 5 ounces at birth.

Her proud father is Gus Gutierrez, a serviceman-1st class in Navasota.

Retirees hear company update

About 150 retirees heard Dr. E. Linn Draper speak about GSU when the Beaumont Side Liners met on May 18 at the Holidome. Draper, senior vice president-external affairs, updated the group on such topics as the United Gas refund, Project CARE and the River Bend project. In addition, the members and their guests enjoyed a buffet dinner hosted by the Beaumont Division.



Jessica Lynn joins McNabbs

Jessica Lynn McNabb was born Nov. 18, 1983, to Katie and John McNabb. She weighed 4 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 17½ inches. The infant has two brothers, John Paul and Jeffrey.

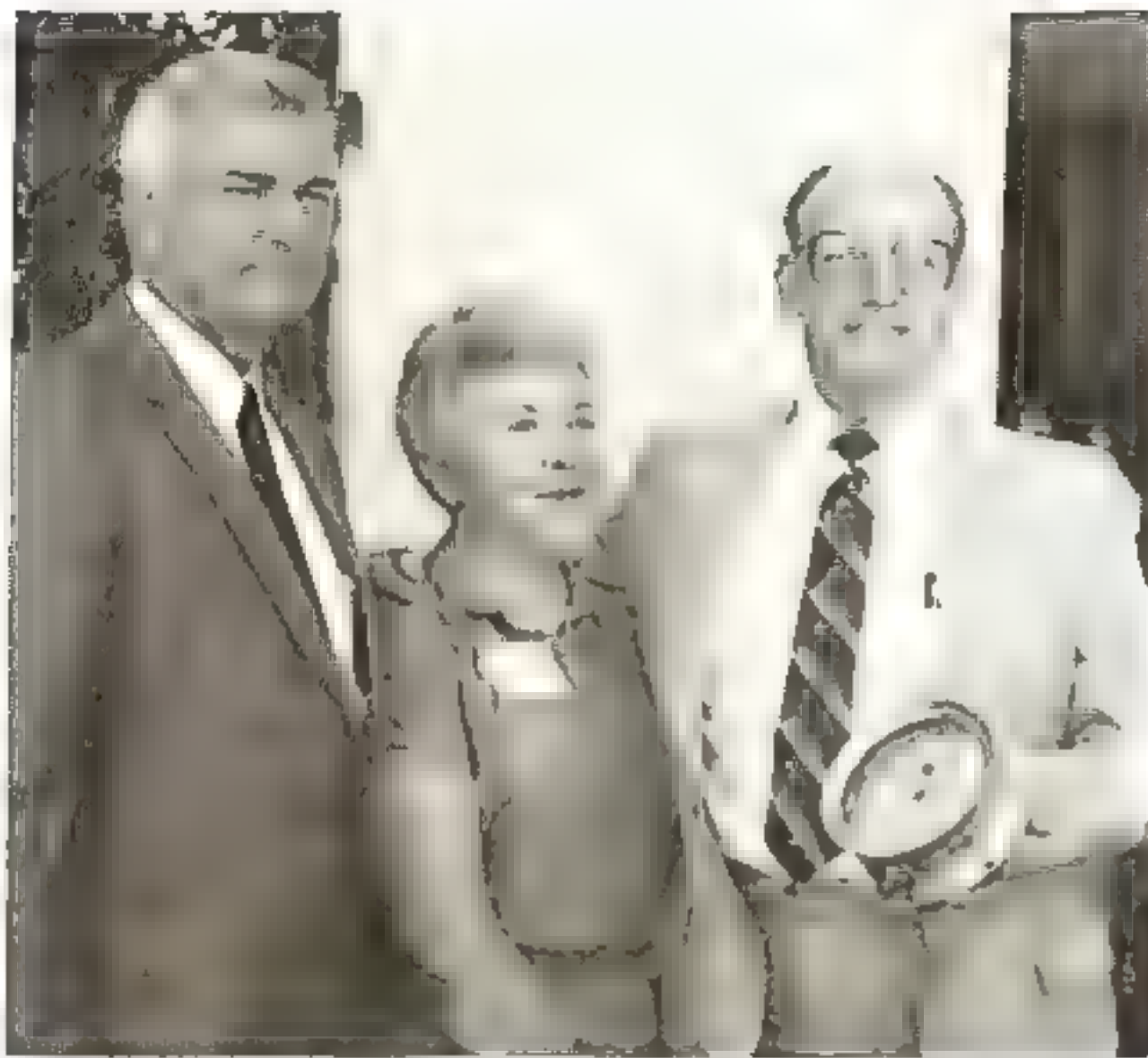
Her parents are both Gulf States employees in Baton Rouge. Her mother is a customer contact clerk at Essen Lane and her father is a serviceman-1st class at the Government St. office.



Thompsons add Corbett Dean

Larry and Becky Thompson announce the birth of their son, Corbett Dean, on April 4. He weighed in at 6 pounds, 12¼ ounces.

His father is a storeroom assistant at Sabine Station.



Jim Derr shows one gift to his wife, Joyre, and Ed Loggins, executive vice president-administration and technical services.

Derr retires after 44 years

Friends and co-workers from throughout GSU gathered in Edison Plaza May 31 for Jim Derr's retirement party.

Derr, who was vice president-power plant engineering and design, had worked for GSU since 1940.



Richards announce son's birth

Carol and Byron Richard are the new parents of Byron Joseph Richard Jr. who was born Jan. 4. The baby weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces and measured 19 inches at birth.

His mother works as a confidential records clerk in Payroll, Beaumont. The baby's aunt, Cecile Wistner, also works for GSU in Beaumont.

Couple marries in Orange

Staci Hodge, daughter of Betty Hodge, married Arty Crow in Orange on March 1. Her mother is a departmental clerk in Mail Services, Beaumont.

The newlyweds will make their home near the Marine Corps base where Crow will be stationed after completing basic training.



From left: Sister of the bride Cynthia Hodge and newlywed Staci Crow.

Employee dies in Cleveland

Milam Rogers, 59, of Cleveland died May 25 in Charter Community Hospital in Cleveland. A merit roll utility worker, Rogers joined GSU in September 1958. Services were held May 30 in North Mount Olive Baptist Church in Cleveland.

Rogers, who was a native of Huntington, was an ordained minister for the church. He was also a member of Fostoria Lodge No. 365.

Survivors include one son, Ernie O. Rogers of Houston; two daughters, Mary Keyser and LaVerne Scott, both of Cleveland; one sister, Winnie Mims of Houston; and six grandchildren.



Winner advances to state finals

Laura Leatherwood, daughter of Lynn and Amanda Leatherwood, was the talent winner in the 7-9-year-old age group in the Cinderella Scholarship Pageant held in Baton Rouge March 31. Laura will attend the state finals in Monroe, Louisiana. Girls who win the state contest will compete in the international finals to be held in Miami, Florida, during August.

Young Amanda's father is supervisor of in-core nuclear fuels at River Bend Station.



Monica Minor and son.

Little Marty joins family

Marty J. Minor Jr. joined the Marty and Monica Minor family Jan. 27. The youngster weighed 9 pounds, 11 ounces at birth.

His mother is a clerk in the North Boulevard Office.



Son born to Whittingtons

Lloyd Richmond Whittington was born Nov. 26, 1983 to Lloyd and Jan Whittington. Young Lloyd weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 19½ inches. He is the couple's first child.

The baby's father is supervisor of short-term finance in Financial Services, Beaumont.



Charlie and Angie Boynton await the stork.

Shower honors Angie Boynton

A baby shower was given for Angie Boynton by co-workers at Edison Plaza. Angie, who is a departmental clerk in the Real Estate department, and her husband, Charlie, an engineer for Gulf States, are expecting their first child. Angie's father, Leonard Gaspard, also works for Gulf States in Port Arthur.

Neches Station retains title

The Neches Station men's softball team won the first place trophy for the second year in a row at the annual GSU softball tournament. This year's event was held April 28-29 and was

hosted by Lafayette. Neches, who was undefeated in its bid for first place, won the championship game, 30-8. Second place went to the Lake Charles Hot Stickers.

In the women's division, the winning team was the Cajun Kilowatts from Lafayette. Second place went to the Combo's from Lake Charles.



Front row, left to right: Helen Kennedy, Joann Carriere, Cecile LaCombe, Pearl Smith, Michelle Henry and Karen Richard. Second row, left to right: Loretta Savoy, Cynthia Matte, Charmaine Meche and Lynette Frederick. Back row, left to right: George Irvin, Bobby Guidry, Kyle Kennedy, Margaret Gallet and Jeff Credeur. Not shown: Mike Guilbeau, Coach.



Front row, left to right: Bill Hodge, Leon Aiena, Darrell White and Calvin Anderson. Back row, left to right: Joe Rowe, Roger Frazier, Larry Holland, Tom Hoy, Michael Barnett, James Richards and James Ochoa. Not shown: Mark Wilson.

ON THE MOVE

A

Alexander, Kevin L., Port Arthur, to electrician-1st class, Plant Production.
Allain, Millard L. Jr., Baton Rouge, to garage mechanic-2nd class, Electric T&D.
Albritton, Harold W., Orange, to lineman-2nd class, Electric T&D.
Allen, Wilma Y., Beaumont, to stenographer-senior, Electric T&D.
Andrus, Scott A., Nelson Gas & Oil, to repairman-1st class, Plant Production.
Arnold, Clayton A., Beaumont, to senior valuation representative, Accounting Services.
August, Sharon B., Beaumont, to computer operations associate, Computer Applications.
Avant, Max C. Jr., Baton Rouge, to substation mechanic-2nd class, Electric T&D.

B

Baggett, Jack R., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.
Banks, Vanessa C., Baton Rouge, to serviceman-2nd class, Gas Department.
Barker, Paul G., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.
Barnard, Rickey G., Sabine Station, to mechanical maintenance foreman, Plant Production.
Barrett, Judie B., Beaumont, to general clerk, Accounting Services.
Bell, Ivy L., Oak Ridge, to lineman-2nd class, Electric T&D.
Bisheh, Akbar, formerly of Beaumont System Engineering, engineer, to Port Arthur T&D Engineering.
Bourgue, Blain A., Lake Charles, to serviceman-3rd class, Electric T&D.
Broyles, Steven M., Baton Rouge, to garage mechanic helper, Electric T&D.
Buchanan, Kathy A., Baton Rouge, to lineman-2nd class, Electric T&D.
Buescher, Donnell W., Beaumont, to lineman-4th class, Electric T&D.
Buford, Susan A., Lake Charles, to stenographer-senior, Division Consumer Services.

C

Callender, Mark R., Beaumont, to senior engineering assistant, Electric T&D.
Canatella, Sam Jr., Navasota, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D.
Causey, Douglas H., River Bend Station, to electrician-1st class-nuclear, Plant Production.
Cervantes, Tony J., Beaumont, to substation mechanic-4th class, Electric T&D.
Chretien, Bobby J., Nelson Coal, to electrician-2nd class, Plant Production.
Clark, Alfred Jr., Port Arthur, to repairman-1st class, Plant Production.
Coco, Robert L., River Bend Station, to systems engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group.

D

Darbonne, David B., Willow Glen, to test technician-1st class, Plant Production.
Davis, Dregsinal L., Beaumont, to stenographer-senior, Financial Services.
Deaderick, David A., River Bend Station, to systems engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group.
Dennis, Henderson L., Baton Rouge, to communications serviceman-1st class, Electric T&D.
Desselle, George W., River Bend Station, to master repairman-nuclear, Plant Production.
Duhamel, Alfred V., Port Arthur, to lineman-1st class, Electric T&D.
Duriseau, John O., Nelson Coal, to repairman-1st class, Plant Production.

E

Easlick, Ralph G., River Bend Station, to radiation protection foreman, River Bend Nuclear Group.
Easterling, Don A., Zachary, to lineman-1st class, Electric T&D.
Ewart, Mary D., Beaumont, to coordinator-office systems, General Services.

F

Fama, Victoria W., formerly of Beaumont Computer Applications, to section head, Beaumont Accounting Services.
Fontenot, Gary T., Nelson Gas & Oil, to senior engineering assistant, Plant Production.
Fontenot, Jonathan S., Nelson Coal, to electrician-2nd class, Plant Production.
Friedman, Mark C., Louisiana Station, to electrician-3rd class, Plant Production.

G

Gallet, Kim A., Lafayette, to lineman-2nd class, Electric T&D.
Gaus, Henry J. II, Beaumont, to turbine operator, Plant Production.
Gerstner, Clifford W., Orange, to apprentice, Electric T&D.
Gilbert, Luther F., Baton Rouge, to senior security representative, Baton Rouge Human Resources.
Gillard, Bobby G. Jr., Lake Charles, to apprentice-T&D Department, Electric T&D.
Goth, Thomas G., Beaumont, to supervisor-production accounting-expense, System Production.
Green, Richard T., Beaumont, to assistant to the controller, Accounting Services.
Gremillion, Michael W., Willow Glen, to repairman-3rd class, Plant Production.
Guillory, Danny G., Nelson Gas & Oil, to master repairman, Plant Production.

H

Haley, Tommie E., Conroe, to meterman-1st class, Electric T&D.
Hamilton, Timothy M., Nelson Coal, to electrician-2nd class, Plant Production.
Harrell, Peggy M., Conroe, to storeroom assistant, Electric T&D.
Hebert, Donald D., formerly of Sabine Station, to maintenance foreman, Nelson Coal Plant Production.
Hebert, Warren H. Jr., Lafayette, to utility man, Electric T&D.
Hennesy, Ricky E., Baton Rouge, to lineman-2nd class, Electric T&D.
Hill, Keith M., Louisiana Station, to turbine-water plant operator, Plant Production.

J

Jackson, William R., formerly of Beaumont System Production, to test & electrical supervisor, Louisiana Station Plant Production.
Jannise, Dale P., Beaumont, to utility foreman, Beaumont T&D Meter.
Jellison, Robert H. II, River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.
Jennette, Peggy C., River Bend Station, to nuclear chemistry technician-1st class, Plant Production.
Johnson, Clifford A., Gonzales, to lineman-4th class, Electric T&D.
Jones, Fred D., Beaumont, to switchboard operator, Plant Production.
Jones, Michael L., Beaumont, to senior draftsman, Engineering Design.
Jones, Roy K., Baton Rouge, to lineman-4th class, Electric T&D.

K

Kruse, Melinda N., Cleveland, to customer contact clerk, Division Accounting.

L

Lambert, William J., River Bend Station, to systems engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group.
Landry, Richard A., Conroe, to supervisor-industrial services, Division Marketing & Consumer Services.
Langton, Johnny L., Beaumont, to collector, Division Accounting.
Lanthier, Gregory J., Lake Charles, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D.
Lytle, Dennis A., Baton Rouge, to meterman-2nd class, Gas Department.

ON THE MOVE

M

Marks, Carl J., Lafayette, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D.

Mason, Ray N., formerly of Port Arthur T&D Engineering, engineer, to Conroe T&D Engineering.

Mayeux, Ricky J., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

McCurry, Roger D., Vidor, to lineman-4th class, Electric T&D.

McFadden, Alex Jr., Baton Rouge, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D.

Mecche, Bryan J., Lafayette, to apprentice, Electric T&D.

Melancon, August P., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Merritt, Robert W. Jr., Port Arthur, to utility worker II, Plant Production.

Miller, Randell L., Lake Charles, to lineman-1st class, Electric T&D.

Miller, Ronald C., Baton Rouge, to lineman-2nd class, Electric T&D.

Miller, Timothy T., Lake Charles, to apprentice-T&D Department, Electric T&D.

N

Netterville, Wilton S. Jr., Beaumont, to lineman-4th class, Electric T&D.

Nettles, Daron W., Port Arthur, to lineman-4th class, Electric T&D.

Neves, Roy E., formerly of Conroe Division Accounting, to inspector-tree trimming, Conroe T&D Line.

P

Parrino, Anthony J., Baton Rouge, to meterman-2nd class, Electric T&D.

Passman, Kent D., Willow Glen, to mechanic helper, Plant Production.

Paulk, Kevin R., Baton Rouge, to pipeman welder-3rd class, Gas Department.

Pendleton, Albert G., Willow Glen, to electrician-2nd class, Plant Production.

Penney, Kenneth R., Huntsville, to consumer service representative-senior, Division Marketing & Consumer Services.

Peters, Dennis J., Baton Rouge, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D.

Plant, Robert W., Conroe, to supervisor-consumer information services, Division Marketing & Consumer Services.

Powers, Diana F., Conroe, to meter reader, Division Accounting.

Powers, James D., New Caney, to apprentice-T&D Department, Electric T&D.

R

Rabe, William P., Beaumont, to supervisor-production accounting-CWIP, System Production.

Raven, Hugh A., Gonzales, to lineman-1st class, Electric T&D.

Rayburn, Hugh G., Beaumont, to EDP shift supervisor, Computer Applications.

Reddin, Mark A., Beaumont, to substation mechanic-3rd class, Electric T&D.

Roe, Nathan W., Conroe, to substation mechanic-2nd class, Electric T&D.

Romero, Jeffery L., Beaumont, to truckdriver, Electric T&D.

Rosas, Bertha G., Port Arthur, to customer contact clerk, Division Accounting.

Ruby, Robert D., River Bend Station, to systems engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group.

Russell, Gregory D., Willow Glen, to test technician-1st class, Plant Production.

S

Saale, David J., Port Allen, to lineman-1st class, Electric T&D.

Scallan, Edward J. III, Louisiana Station, to electrician-2nd class, Plant Production.

Scott, Michael J., Conroe, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D.

Sims, Bryan L., Baton Rouge, to garage mechanic-2nd class, Electric T&D.

Speeg, Albert D., River Bend Station, to master instrument/control technician-1st class-nuclear, Plant Production.

Smith, James L., formerly of Beaumont River Bend Nuclear Group, to director-accounts payable, Beaumont Accounting Services.

Stafford, Robert B., River Bend Station, to director-quality services, River Bend Nuclear Group.

Staneart, Loyal L., Conroe, to electrician-2nd class, Plant Production.

Stogner, Robert W., Baton Rouge, to communications serviceman-2nd class, Electric T&D.

T

Tharpe, Dallas W., Beaumont, to mechanical engineer, Power Plant Engineering & Design.

Thibodeaux, Russell J., Willow Glen, to electrician-2nd class, Plant Production.

Tomlinson, Phillip F., River Bend Station, to supervisor-quality operations, River Bend Nuclear Group.

Toniette, James B. Jr., Lake Charles, to lineman-4th class, Electric T&D.

Trask, Edward N., River Bend Station, to nuclear control operator, Plant Production.

Trout, LuAnn A., formerly of Beaumont Power Supply, to rate analyst, Rates & Regulatory Affairs.

Trove, Boyd T., Port Arthur, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D.

V

Van Zant, Mark A., Beaumont, to mechanical engineer, Power Plant Engineering & Design.

W

Wade, David B., formerly of Beaumont System Engineering, to project engineer, Beaumont Transmission Construction.

Ward, Barbara L., Beaumont, to stenographer-senior, Engineering Design.

Wheeler, Raymond L., Beaumont, to senior operations analyst, Computer Applications.

White, Steve A., formerly of Baton Rouge T&D Operations, to inspector-tree trimming, Baton Rouge T&D Line.

Whittington, Lloyd A., Beaumont, to supervisor-short term finance, Financial Services.

Williams, Earnest E., Beaumont, to lineman-4th class, Electric T&D.

Williams, James E., Silsbee, to lineman-1st class, Electric T&D.

Willie, Henry H., River Bend Station, to master electrician-nuclear, Plant Production.

Wiltz, Larry J., Beaumont, to lineman-3rd class, Electric T&D.

Y

Young, Grayson S., River Bend Station, to systems engineer, River Bend Nuclear Group.

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